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THE EXTENSION HORTICULTURIST

January 1, 1926.



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* We desire to extend to all workers along horticultur- *

* al lines our best wishes for a happy and successful New Year. *

* Extension teaching in horticulture in its various *

* branches has so increased in importance that it now ranks *

* among the foremost in the extension program in many of the *

* States. *

* Extension specialists are rendering the horticultural *

* industry of the country a distinct and valuable service that *

* has come to be recognized as essential to successful produc- *

* tion. We stand ready to cooperate with the men in the States *

* to the best of our ability. *

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Office of Horticultural Investigations
and Extension Service Cooperating
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST
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Annual Meeting of the American Society for
Horticultural Science.

The annual meeting was held in Kansas City, Missouri, on December 29, 30, and 31. The program was so full that it was necessary to break up into sections, one for fruits and one for vegetables, on the second day. The meeting started off on high gear and kept up the pace to the end. Everyone was full of pep, and there was time for good discussions of most papers and with many interjections of wit the members kept keyed up for everything that was presented. About 70 members were in attendance, they were mostly college and station men but extension men were there from Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Georgia. There was only one extension paper, that discussed the seed potato work in Iowa.

The papers of the fruit men ran strongly to the effect of pruning and fertilizing on grapes, the effect of pruning and fertilizing on fruit spur and blossom bud development as determined by chemical analyses, pollination studies, fruit breeding, relation of leaf area to growth of apples, propagation of fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs, use of plant characters in identifying varieties, ringing of fruit trees and vines to promote fruitfulness, condition of maturity for picking fruit for shipment, and the development of fruit storage diseases.

The vegetable men dealt with types and varieties of vegetables, physical and chemical changes in celery during storage, nutrition and pruning and training of tomatoes, fruiting habit of watermelons, curing of sweet corn, effects of fertilizers on sweet potatoes and cabbage, value of check plots in fertilizer work with cabbage and tomatoes, ripening of tomatoes with ethylene gas, and the carbo-hydrate nitrogen relations in seeding celery.

It might well be said that the "last word" on horticultural investigations was reported at this meeting. Many of the members are delving deeper into plant physiology and plant chemistry than most of the specialists in these two subjects. It is a recognized fact that this Society gives better information on plant physiology and plant chemistry than is given by any other society.

The members who could not attend the meeting missed a great fund of horticultural information and the inspiration to launch work in the new year with increased vigor.

The 1926 meeting will be held in Philadelphia during the last four days of December. Let us now plan a strong horticultural extension program for that meeting.

The officers elected for 1926 are as follows:

President. -	E. C. Auchter, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.
Vice-President.-	H. A. Jones, University Farm, Davis, California.
Secretary-Treasurer.-	C. P. Close, U. S. Department of Agriculture.
Assistant-Secretary.-	H. W. Richey, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

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Ready to Extend.

Investigation of a problem is of little use unless leading to results that are of value to those who are engaged in the practical production or handling of the crop or commodity affected. For many years the nematode problem has been causing losses to florists, vegetable growers, and horticulturists generally, amounting to millions of dollars annually. For several years Dr. N. A. Cobb, and his corps of able assistants in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, have been studying the life history of nemas as a basis for determining control measures. Investigators in the States have been pursuing similar studies, and while the results are yet far from complete and the control measures still inadequate, Dr. Cobb feels that enough has been learned to justify placing the results in the hands of the extension workers for dissemination. Dr. Cobb says "The growers are going to do something in the way of nematode control and it is desirable to acquaint them with the facts as already worked out and give them the benefit of the best known control measures."

Dr. Cobb will furnish extension workers with information and illustrative material for use in carrying the message on nematode control to the growers in the States. Owing to pressure of investigational work, it will not be possible for Dr. Cobb to have his men visit the States to do this work but he is quite willing to turn available material over to us for the use of the State workers. All communications relative to the matter should be addressed to the editors of the "Extension Horticulturist," who will in turn arrange with Dr. Cobb's office to have whatever is available, both in the way of information and material, sent to the State workers.

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Ten Ton Tomato Club in Indiana
Extension Service News Notes, November, 1925.

"The Ten Ton Tomato Club project was brought to a close in Hancock County with a big banquet given to the growers by the Greenville Packing Co., the feature of which was the story told by John A. Cottey and George Rabe, the two high men in the club, of how they produced their unusual yields of 15.88 and 14.03 tons per acre respectively. At this meeting the Packing Co., gave away approximately \$2,000 in bonuses, representing \$1.00 per ton to all Club Members who secured a yield of ten or more tons per acre on an area of not less than three acres. Mr. Cottey, by producing three times the average tonnage per acre in the community, demonstrated that it is more economical to limit the acreage grown by an individual. Liberal fertilization, deep plowing, extraordinary good seed bed, careful planting of strong, sturdy vigorous plants followed by resetting to insure perfect stands, liberal cultivations were practices which, when followed, produced good results. Fifteen growers joined the Ten Ton Club in the spring and four finished with yields of ten ton or more per acre. It is interesting to note that the average yield of all of the Club members (using 500# fertilizer per acre) was 6.59 tons per acre while the average yields of the non-club members (using 400# fertilizer per acre) was 4.8 tons per acre, just 1.79 tons less. The average yield in tons per acre of growers using no fertilizer per acre was only 3.65 tons."

Sweet Potatoes in Louisiana
University Station, Baton Rouge
December, 1925.

"Louisiana has 275,000 bushels of sweet potatoes stored in storage houses, according to figures compiled by M. Hull, Horticultural Specialist, of the Louisiana State University Extension Division. This compares with 100,000 stored in 1924; 73,000 in 1923; 110,000 bushels in 1922; 294,000 bushels in 1921; and 172,000 bushels the five year average. From this season's figures there should be a reduction of at least 20% to take care of rot, shrinkage, seed, and off grade stock, leaving approximately 220,000 bushels to move in car lots. This represents practically the entire quantity for future shipment.

The total production in Louisiana this year is estimated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, at 7,200,000 bushels. Last year the production was 3,900,000; two years ago, 7,820,000; three years ago, 8,272,000 and 7,054,000 the five year average; 1920-1925.

The total production for the United States is estimated at 81,084,000 bushels, as compared with 75,620,000 bushels last year; 97,177,000 bushels two years ago; and 91,675,000 bushels the five year average.

Car lot shipments for Louisiana as of December 1 totaled 1197 as compared with 342 cars of same date last year. Louisiana shipped a total of 590 cars of the 1924 season's crop; 758 of the 1923 crop, 1033 of the 1922 crop, and 912 of the 1921 crop.

Total shipments for the United States as of Dec. 1 reached 12,541 cars, total as of same date last season 10,002 cars."

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Horticultural Extension Literature Received During December, 1925.

Kansas Agricultural College, Manhattan

Spraying Kansas Fruits. Ext. Bul. 46, Reprint Feb. 1925.

New York College of Agriculture, Ithaca

Better Seed for Commercial Vegetable Growers. Bul. 122, June, 1925.

South Dakota Agricultural College, Brookings

Home Orchards for South Dakota. Ext. Cir. 218, December, 1924

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W. R. Beattie,
C. P. Close,

Extension Horticulturists.

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